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CLASSIFICATION ~~SECRET~~COUNTRY East Germany REPORTTOPIC Military Information from the Letzting Heath Troop Training Grounds

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EVALUATION PLACE OBTAINED

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DATE OF CONTENT

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DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

1 June 1954

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REFERENCES

PAGES 2 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

This is UNEVALUATED Information

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1. On 19 April 1954, wood camp I near Born, which has an estimated capacity of about 8,000 troops, was occupied by an advance detail of 500 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, engaging in reconditioning work and coming from Bura. The bulk of the units was expected to arrive in early May. Motor vehicles were seen en route to the camp. 25X1
2. On 19 April, wood camp III near Born was occupied by an advance party of about 400 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The troops mentioned that they had come from Magdeburg. 25X1
3. On 5 May, the wood camps in the Born area were partially occupied. Small columns of motor vehicles carrying billeting equipment and occupied by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, including some with artillery, tank and engineer insignia; and individual motor vehicles were continually observed en route to the camps, coming from the direction of Haldensleben. 25X1
4. On 19 May, wood camps I and II near Born were occupied by tank units. Tanks, including T-34s, were seen driving in the camp area.
5. On 19 May, wood camp II, south of Huetten, was occupied by at least 1,500 tank troopers. About 150 T-34 and JS tanks, as well as SP guns, were parked in the camp. 25X1
6. On 19 April, wood camp II, south of Huetten, was occupied by an advance detail of about 300 troops from Rosslau. The units were expected to arrive between Easter and early May. On 16 April, 10 sidecar motorcycles and truck entered the camp. 25X1
7. On 5 May, wood camp II, south of Huetten, was occupied. Numerous EM wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia and several officers wearing black-bordered black epaulets with engineer insignia were observed. The main entrance of the camp

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was guarded by 2 sentries wearing red-bordered black epaulets with tank insignia. Individual trucks with troops and billeting equipment entered the camp.<sup>2</sup>

8. On 19 May, the wood camp southeast of Jaevenitz, which included one-story temporary buildings and about 40 two-man tents, was occupied. Motor vehicles were seen en route toward Letzlingen coming from the direction of Gardelagen. There was no training in the area south and southwest of Jaevenitz.<sup>3</sup> 25X1
9. Ten Soviet families each were quartered in Hillersleben-Dorf, Hillersleben-settlement, Wedringen, Vahldorf, Meseberg and Neuenhofe after 24 April.<sup>4</sup> 25X1
1. Comment. Information by source of paragraph 1 confirms the assumption that wood camp I serves as quarters for army troops of the Third Shock Army. Units of the 136th Gds Hvy Tank SP Regt were observed in Burg during the transfer on 5 May. Motor vehicle belongs to this regiment. Wood camp III is rather safely believed to be occupied by units of the 19th Gds Mech Div, which arrived at Letzling Heath from Magdeburg after 3 May. It appears credible that the two camps were occupied to capacity prior to mid May, as, according to other information, troops of the units mentioned still stayed at their winter quarters at that time. 25X1
2. Comment. Wood camp II can be carried occupied to capacity after 8 May. The 7th Gds Tank Div transferred to Letzling Heath in a total of 32 shipments. The camp is believed to be occupied by about 5,000 to 6,000 troops of the division. Motor vehicles mentioned in paragraph 5 belong to the units known to be stationed in Letzling Heath. 25X1
3. Comment. Although no confirmation has been received from the Stendal post, it can be assumed that the units of the 207th Mts Rifle Div occupied their known summer camp southeast of Jaevenitz in late April and early May. 25X1
4. Comment. Similar information has been received from the Templin and Lieberose troop training grounds. Contrary to Lieberose, where dependents were quartered in the camp, the Soviet families mentioned in the present report were billeted in the vicinity of the training grounds. 25X1

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